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 determining the current Internet protocol address of the called telephone process by mapping the identifier against entries in the current database; and
 providing the current Internet protocol address of the called telephone process to the calling telephone process.

REMARKS

Introduction

Claims 1, 12, 23 and 31 have been amended. New claims 32 and 33 have been added. The application therefore includes claims 1- 33. Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the draft supplemental amendment. Reconsideration of the rejection of the application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-31 Are Allowable Over the Prior Art

Claims 1, 12, 23 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oberlander et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,825,865 ("Oberlander") in view of Gordon, U.S. Pat. No. 5,608,786 ("Gordon"). Claims 2-11, 13-22 and 24-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oberlander in view of Gordon and further in view of Blonder et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,708,422 ("Blonder"). Because Oberlander, Gordon, Blonder, and the other cited prior art references fail to disclose or suggest packet-based telephony processes having protocol addresses that are dynamically assigned upon connecting to an Internet and are temporary for each instance of connecting to the Internet (as recited in each of the independent claims), the pending claims are patentable over the cited prior art references.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner states that Gordon discloses routing messages in packet format that are "inherently assigned IP addresses for routing purposes as well known in the art in the Internet Telephony communications field." However, Gordon does not mention or refer to the problem of **dynamic addressing** in any way; instead, Gordon merely refers to "permanent" Internet addresses provided to subscribers by so-called Internet commercial access providers. See Gordon, col. 5,

lines 17-20. Likewise, claim 1 of Gordon, specifically cited in the Advisory Action, does not refer to or even suggest dynamic, non-permanent protocol addresses. In contrast, the Applicants' claimed subject matter pertains to dynamic addresses such as may be assigned to workstations on a host network, for example, that are temporary for each instance of connecting to the Internet, allowing an efficient allocation of IP addresses – a sometimes scarce resource.

In addition to the above, since Oberlander and Blonder also do not disclose or suggest the feature of packet-based telephony processes having protocol addresses that are *dynamically assigned* upon connecting to an Internet and are *temporary* for each instance of connecting to the Internet, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 12, 23, and 31, as well as their respective dependent claims 2-11, 13-22 and 24-30, are patentable over the cited prior art references.

New Claims 32 and 33

New claim 32 is patentable at least because none of the cited prior art references, whether viewed individually or in combination, disclose or suggest sending a call packet directed to the current Internet protocol address of the called telephone process, the call packet including an information profile having information identifying the caller telephone process (taking place over a network implementing dynamic Internet protocol addressing).

New claim 33 is also patentable at least because none of the cited prior art references, whether viewed individually or in combination, disclose or suggest maintaining a current database of all on-line telephone processes that includes current Internet protocol addresses of each on-line telephone process and that associates the current Internet protocol addresses with an identifier of each telephone process in the context of a network that implements dynamic IP addressing.

Conclusion

All issues having been addressed, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the

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changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version Of Amendment Showing Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION OF AMENDMENT SHOWING CHANGES MADE

1. (Four times amended) In a packet-switched computer network over which packets from a plurality of packet-based Internet telephony processes are transmitted, the telephony processes having a dynamically assigned protocol address that is dynamically assigned upon connecting to an Internet and is temporary for each instance of connecting to the Internet, a method of selectively alerting a user of an incoming communication over the computer network comprising the steps of:

A. receiving a call packet containing an information profile identifying one of the plurality of telephony processes which is the source of an incoming communication; and

B. responding to the incoming communication by transmitting a responsive packet over the computer network in accordance with the identity of the source;

wherein a central server stores the dynamically assigned protocol addresses to establish an Internet telephony communication between the telephony processes.

12. (Four times amended) A computer program product for use with a computer system capable of executing an Internet telephony process and communicating with other telephony processes over a packet-switched computer network, the telephony processes having dynamically assigned protocol addresses that are dynamically assigned upon connecting to an Internet and is temporary for each instance of connecting to the Internet, the computer program product comprises a computer useable medium having embodied therein program code comprising:

A. program code for receiving an incoming communication over the computer network, the incoming communication containing a call packet containing an information profile identifying one of the plurality of telephony processes which is the source of the incoming communication; and

B. program code, responsive to the information profile, for selectively notifying a user of the incoming communication by transmitting a responsive packet over the computer network in accordance with the identity of the source;

wherein a server interacts with the computer system to store the dynamically assigned protocol addresses to establish an Internet telephony communication between the telephony processes.

23. (Four times amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising:

A. program code for receiving an incoming communication over a packet-switched computer network over which packets from a plurality of packet-based telephony processes are transmitted, the telephony processes having a dynamically assigned protocol address that is dynamically assigned upon connecting to an Internet and is temporary for each instance of connecting to the Internet, the incoming communication containing a call packet containing an information profile identifying one of the plurality of telephony processes which is the source of the incoming communication; and

B. program code, responsive to the information profile, for selectively notifying a user of the incoming communication by transmitting a responsive packet over the computer network in accordance with the identity of the source;

wherein a server interacts with the computer system to store the dynamically assigned protocol addresses to establish an Internet telephony communication between the telephony processes.

31. (Four times amended) An apparatus for use with a computer system capable of executing a telephony process and communicating with other telephony processes over a packet-switched computer network, the telephony processes having dynamically assigned protocol addresses that are dynamically assigned upon connecting to an Internet and is temporary for each instance of connecting to the Internet, the apparatus comprising:

A. program logic configured to receive an incoming communication over the computer network, the incoming communication containing a call packet containing an information profile identifying one of the plurality of telephony processes which is the source of the incoming communication; and

B. program logic, responsive to the information profile, and configured to selectively notifying a user of the incoming communication by transmitting a responsive packet over the computer network in accordance with the identity of the source;

wherein a server interacts with the computer system to store the dynamically assigned protocol addresses to establish an Internet telephony communication between the telephony processes.